# News-Pages of the GSWC

**The Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County, Michigan, Inc. 2 January 2019**
**To Accompany *Family History Capers* Vol. 42, No. 2**

**GSWC Meetings** are held at 1:30 p.m. at the Education Center Auditorium, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Campus, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti, Michigan, usually the fourth Sunday of the month, September to May.

**Upcoming Meetings Winter 2019:**

**Sunday, January 27, 2019: "Understanding and Utilizing Your Ancestry DNA Results"** presented by Angie Bush**. Class: "No Tree? No Problem!"** given by Barbara Giezentaner**.**

**Sunday, February 24, 2019: "Michigan Roots: African American Migration in Michigan"** by Rozlyn Kelly**. Class: "What's in a Name"** by a panel of GSWC Members.

**Sunday, March 24, 2019: "Voyage to America"** by Katherine Willson. **Class: "Where Did You Come From?" "How Did You Get Here?"** small group discussion and sharing.

&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&

**Report on Recent Meetings:**

**October 28, 2018: "Colonial Research in America"** given by Karen Krugman. Ms. Krugman's presentation addressed what to expect and where to look. She explained that colonial records are not located in one place. Records can be found in books and on microfilm. She noted we may have to change the way we search for these records.

When trying to locate a record, note that it may be kept at a library or at the county or state level. Ms. Krugman provided the following examples of where to locate colonial records:

-Internet Archive, https://archive.org (free); she explained how to use the website and what information is available.

-American Ancestors,

- https://www.americanancestors.org (fee); she pointed out this website has a lot of information on American ancestors but there is a charge for this.

-Michigan Archives, https://www.michigan.gov/archivesofmi, has records from the state and county facilities.

-Allen County Public Library [Fort Wayne, Indiana], http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/, has many colonial records on microfilm. Their catalog may be accessed online, as well as books that have been scanned.

Ms. Krugman provided examples on how she researched her colonial ancestors and what she encountered during the process. She gave tips on how to get information without visiting the location where the record might be.

For more information contact Karen Krugman at: researcher@miprofgenie.com

Reported by Janet Gilkey

**Class: "Colonial Experiences."** Part one was presented by GSWC member, Carolyn Griffin, who shared information about Valentine Lawrence (an ancestor of Carolyn's husband, Earnie). Valentine was involved in the "Lochry Massacre" during the American Revolution. He and many of the men in his company were captured by Joseph Brant, of the Mohawks (who had joined up with other groups). She listed types of information to look for, such as cemeteries, church records, census and tax lists, and she told us where she found resources. She used DAR material, including applications for membership, maps of Pennsylvania, and Revolutionary War records found at Carlisle Barracks. She read books, diaries, reports of battles and battalion histories, pension records, military rosters and county histories.

For the other part of the class we broke out into small groups, in which everyone had a chance to share about their own colonial era ancestors. A chart was constructed to allow members to make connections with others searching the same American Revolutionary War names. We also discussed successes and made suggestions to those with brick walls. It was a lively and interactive session!

Reported by Marcia McCrary

**December 2, 2018: "What You Need to Know about Will and Estate Records"** by Jeff Mason. There is a wealth of information in will and estate records about a family which can be used as a primary source for providing proof of relationship for periods before 1860 census records and birth/marriage/death certificates. Many will and estate records provide other information as to the marital status of the deceased, the names of the children and even approximately how old each child is—some list the names of married daughters and sons-in-law.

Unfortunately, many old courthouse records have been lost to fire and other conditions.

Mr. Mason's presentation discussed what can be found in will and estate records as well as methods for obtaining them. Listed below are the records that typically can be found in a courthouse:

-Wills
-Estates
-Probate Proceedings
-Estate Appraisals and Accounts
-Inventories
-Petitions
-Guardianship Records
-Orphans Court Records
-Executor

Online resources that can be used for locating the above are as follows:

https://www.ancestry.com
https://www.familysearch.com
https://www.google.com
http;//www.mapofus.com

Mr. Mason went through several of the records listed above and explained what these records are. He gave examples of what types of information could be found in each.

For additional information or questions, his email address is: jeffreyemason@aol.com.

Reported by Janet Gilkey

**Class: "Beginning Genealogy, Part 2: Census Records"** An overview was given by Barbara Snow, breaking down the census records into three types. The 1790 through 1840 censuses collected the names of head of household, the rest of the people in each house are shown as hash marks, showing age groups. The 1850 to 1870 censuses report individuals by name, age, but not their relationship to the head of household. The 1880 to 1930 censuses have a lot of information on each individual besides their name and age including: relationship to the head of the household, occupation, naturalization year and status, year married, and for the women, how many children they had had, and how many were living. In 1940 the question was asked about residence in 1935.

She suggested using a census extraction form to capture all the information. Look for more information on her website: http://www.barbsnow.net, click on "Bobbie's Genealogy Classroom", and then find census under "The Records".

Diane Good shared some hints about using Ancestry for censuses and saving information in trees. She also discussed a recording method using a spreadsheet to capture information about each person. You can print to a PDF, or save as a JPG. She mentioned using Pedigree Thief, which is a Google Chrome extension. Once you have captured the information in Pedigree Thief, you can put it into a word file. She also showed how to drop the information into Excel and how to parse the first names out into their own column. Once in Excel, you can filter the information to create a sortable list and even combine two columns into one.

Marcia McCrary introduced the use of city directories, showing examples, highlighting some of the abbreviations, and noting you often find the name of the wife listed in parentheses. Many directories will have a section arranged by street address, this is especially good when tracing the history of a house, and for finding neighbors who may be relatives, or become relatives through marriage. Be sure to follow up on clues such as the company your ancestor worked for, and the names of officers.

Reported by Marcia McCrary

&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&

**GSWC Items:**

The next meeting of the **DNA Special Interest Group** will be 3 to 5 p.m. on Thursday, January 16, 2019 at the Saline District Library. Contact GSWC member Rodger Wolf at rawolf@umich.edu for more information.

&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&

**Upcoming Events:**

In 2020, the 100th Anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment—which allowed women to vote will be celebrated. On January 16, 2019 representatives of the GSWC and museum groups in Washtenaw County will meet to plan and coordinate events throughout the year. This meeting is a brainstorming session centered on county wide events. It is at 2 p.m. at the Cedars of Dexter Clubhouse. Items to be discussed: what groups could do such as exhibits, sponsor lecture, present a play; website development, advertising, and travelling exhibits. If you have questions or to attend contact info@washtenawgenealogy.org.

&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&

News-Pages Editors:

Marcia McCrary 734-483-2799 marciamccr@aol.com
Judi Bornemeier bornannarbor@sbcglobal.net
Janet Gilkey (Meeting Lecture Reporter)